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Reds going all-out in Africa: CIA

WASHINGTON [UPI] — The Soviet Union and Cuba are launching the greatest campaign to expand foreign influence south of the Sahara since European powers carved up Africa in the 19th Century, deputy CIA director Frank Carlucci said Monday.

Carlucci, flanked by agency experts, appeared before the Senate Armed Services Subcommittee on Intelligence to testify on Soviet and Cuban activity and intentions in the whole of Africa.

IN A BRIEF STATEMENT and in answer to a general questions before the meeting was closed to the public, Carlucci said:

• "The degree of Soviet and Cuban military activity in sub-Saharan Africa is unprecedented. We are witnessing the most determined campaign to expand foreign influence in this troubled region since it was carved up by the European powers in the late 19th Century."

• Soviet military equipment has been

flowing into Ethiopia and Angola "faster than the local forces can absorb it." Tank deliveries to Ethiopia exceed 400; more than 50 MIG fighters have gone to Addis Ababa, as have "huge quantities of armored cars, personnel carriers, and artillery."

• Soviet and Cuban general officers "plan and coordinate combat operations involving more than 16,000 Cuban troops." Soviet military aid committed to Ethiopia "now ranges close to \$1 billion."

• In Angola, "tons of Soviet military hardware litter the docks at Luanda, and Soviet or Cuban advisers are found at every level of the government . . . there are more Cuban soldiers in Angola than in Ethiopia, thousands of them engaged in active combat against UNITA [an anti-Communist force] in the southern part of the country."

In Africa south of the Sahara, Carlucci said, Soviet equipment is being delivered to liberation movements and self-

styled revolutionary regimes whose forces are being trained by Cubans and Soviets.

"It is my view that Moscow and Havana intend to take advantage of every such opportunity to demonstrate that those who accept their political philosophy can also count on receiving their assistance when it is needed," Carlucci said.

IN ANSWER TO questions from subcommittee chairman Harry F. Byrd Jr. [I., Va.], Carlucci said the CIA does not yet have sufficient information on Somalia reports that the Soviets were behind reported recent coup attempts in Somalia.

Shooting apparently broke out in two places, he said, but information was spotty on who originated the fighting. The wording of Somali reports on the coup attempts would indicate Soviet complicity, he said.